

417 MIDGET JUVENILE HOCKEY LEAGUE

ORGANIZATIONAL BY-LAW

This organization shall be known as the "417 MIDGET JUVENILE HOCKEY LEAGUE" (the "League").

1 OTTAWA DISTRICT MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

The Constitution, By-laws, Regulations, Code of Discipline and all other policies and resolutions properly enacted and passed by the Ottawa District Minor Hockey Association shall take priority over this League By-law and in the event of conflict between the ODMHA and the League By-law, the ODMHA shall prevail.

2 LEAGUE OBJECTIVES

2.1 The League is intended to provide:

- an introduction to adult hockey as played in most senior leagues,
- recreational, non-body checking hockey for a full spectrum of players of all abilities,
- a reasonable balance in the ice time for each player in every game, and
- an opportunity for all players who want to play within each hockey association, regardless of their abilities.

2.2 The League is:

- not a carded competitive hockey league, although it is expected that every team, having met the above objectives, will strive to perform to the greatest of their abilities,
- not intended for players who choose not to conduct themselves within the rules and this bylaw,
- not intended for team officials who choose not to conduct themselves within the rules and this bylaw or who choose not to ensure that their players conduct themselves within the rules and this bylaw, and
- not intended for associations that choose not to ensure that their players, team officials, game officials and fans conduct themselves within the rules and this bylaw.

3 GOVERNING BODIES and ADMINISTRATION

3.1 The League operates under the auspices of the Canadian Hockey Association (the "CHA"), Ottawa District Hockey Association (the "ODHA"), Ottawa District Minor Hockey Association (the "ODMHA"), and the District 8 Council of the ODMHA ("District 8"), and shall abide by the by-laws, rules and regulations of those governing bodies.

3.2 The business affairs of the League shall be administered by the League President (the "President"), the Past President and such other Officers as may be appointed from time to time, who shall act in accordance with such rules and regulations as may from time to time be enacted.

3.3 Application for membership in the League may be made by any minor hockey Association, Organization or Club (the "Association") conducting amateur minor hockey and that is a member in good standing of the ODMHA. Application for League Membership, together with the League Fee, shall be made annually by teams seeking to play in the League, and approval of an applicant for membership shall be at the sole discretion of the League.

3.4 In its sole discretion, the League may impose conditions for membership, both for new applicants and for present members including, without limitation, membership conditional on good behaviour for a period of time, or membership conditional upon confirmation by the applicant that certain players or team officials shall not participate or shall participate only on probation for a period of time on account of prior misconduct in this or any other hockey league. Membership shall be valid for one hockey year, commencing on the date of acceptance by the League and terminating on the fifteenth day of September after each playing season, unless terminated earlier as provided in this By-law.

3.5 The Past President shall be the person who preceded the duly appointed President of the League, and the Past President shall have full authority to act in place of the President should the President fail to act, or should there be no President. The President shall be appointed annually by District 8, commencing on the date of appointment by District Council and terminating on the fifteenth day of September after each playing season. The President may appoint Co-ordinators recommended by League Members from time to time to provide assistance in the operation of the League, it being the intention that future candidates for the role of President may gain knowledge of the League's operations while acting as League Co-ordinators.

3.6 The President shall in his or her sole discretion:

- a) exercise power and authority on behalf of the ODMHA, District 8 and the League, and interpret and apply the League Rules to promote fair play and equity, and to encourage and promote the objectives of the League;

- b) have the power to suspend from further participation in the League any team, referee, player, team official or game official for breach of this bylaw or for conduct prejudicial to the general welfare of the League;
- c) be responsible for scheduling and keeping statistics for all games in the League;
- d) be responsible for the finances of the League; and
- e) delegate, as needed, various responsibilities for operation of the League, including those functions identified above.

3.7 The Past President shall:

- a) upon request of the League President, carry out any duties or responsibilities of the League such as discipline, and
- b) act on behalf of the President as may be required.

3.8 District 8 may intervene in the operation or administration of the League as it sees fit or upon request of one or more of the League Members in regard to financial matters and administrative overview.

3.9 On the request of the League, District 8 may amend this By-law and the Hockey Playing Rules.

3.10 Membership in the League by an Association conducting amateur minor hockey, and participation in the League by players, team officials, referees and individuals belonging to, employed or invited by those Members, is voluntary, but at all times such membership and participation is full and sufficient evidence of acceptance of the final and binding authority of all rulings and decisions of the League and the governing bodies.

4 TEAMS

4.1 Teams in the League may be grouped into geographic Divisions for the playing season to reduce travel but, to increase competition and create equity between teams, teams may be moved from one Division to another for the play-offs.

4.2 Subject to annual approval by the ODMHA, four "overage" players aged 21 as at December 31 may be permitted on each team, but no such overage player (except a goalie) may have played for a Junior team after the last cutdown date during the previous season. Goalies who played for a Junior team after the last cutdown date during the previous season may play in the League as a forward or defenceman, but shall not be eligible to play as a goalie at any time in the League.

4.3 No player registered on any Junior A, B or C, Midget or Bantam AA, A or B team (those that used to be 'carded') can play in the League, and no player in the League is permitted to be affiliated to any such team.

4.4 Every player participating in the League shall be registered and insured under ODMHA. No player may join the League after February 1 of each hockey year. Players must respect geographic boundaries established by the ODMHA, but Associations are expected to approve all transfer requests unless the Association from which the player has requested a transfer has applied for League membership and will not have sufficient players to form a team should that transfer be approved.

4.5 Every team participating in the League shall do so in accordance with the CHA and ODMHA Regulations applicable to recreational hockey. In accordance with CHA Reg. E for recreational hockey, for registration purposes a "Team" may be any number of players not greater than 25.

5 GAMES

5.1 The number of games that every team will play during the regular season shall be not more than 24 nor less than 16 depending on the number of teams in the League, and the season shall start not earlier than the last weekend in October and end not later than the end of March in each playing season.

5.2 As a condition of membership each year, by stipulated deadlines the League shall require every Team to provide a sufficient number of ice times to permit the regular season and the playoffs to be scheduled, and the League may require such ice times to be at various times and on different days, preferably in the evening. The League shall return unused ice times to each Team as soon as the schedule is confirmed.

5.3 The League may establish the days, dates and times when games may be held, may require Associations to provide different times and dates than those submitted, and may schedule more than one game on one day.

6 LEAGUE FEES

6.1 The League shall establish a League Fee each year, which fee shall cover, without limitation, telephone, communication and office costs, travel, trophies, Division, Conference and League championship ice and officials' expense, and fees for an administrator, a game scheduler, a statistician, and a record keeper for player disciplinary records. The League will operate on a not-for-profit basis.

- 6.2 Any Member that fails to pay the League Fee within the time allowed by the President shall be suspended from further participation in the League on two days' written notice to the Member. For this and for all other purposes, it shall be sufficient for the League and for any Member to give notice to any other Member or to the League at the address provided by the ODMHA.

7 HOCKEY PLAYING RULES

The 417 Hockey Playing Rules shall form a part of this bylaw, provided that the Rules may be amended from time to time by the League and approved by District 8, and notice thereof posted on the internet.

8 LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Application for League Membership shall be the League Membership Agreement, and forms a part of this bylaw by reference. This Agreement confirms that the League is recreational and non-body checking, and commits every Member, its Players and Team Officials to act in accordance with the rules and this bylaw, and to maintain an appropriate level of discipline and control of players, team officials, game officials and fans. The Agreement further commits every Member to ensure that it has the authority to suspend or, in lieu of suspension under the 417 Hockey Playing Rules, to remove Players or Team Officials from the Team Roster for breach of the Agreement or this By-law.

9 DISCIPLINE

- 9.1 In addition to any greater discipline imposed by this section, the ODMHA Code of Discipline shall be strictly enforced for all players and team officials.
- 9.2 Every Player and Team Official who incurs one of the following penalties agrees to withdraw from further play in the League on the direction of the League in its sole discretion, using as a guideline the following number of games in excess of the number of game suspensions imposed by the ODMHA Code of Discipline:
- a) **Fighting -Rule 59:** **3 additional games**
 - b) **Instigating a fight or being the aggressor - Rule 59:** **2 additional games**
 - c) **Gross Misconduct - Rule 33:** **4 additional games**
 - d) **Match Penalty except Molesting of Officials - Rule 34 exc. Rule 71:** **4 additional games**
 - e) **Game Misconduct:** A Player incurring his Third Game Misconduct shall withdraw from the League.
 - f) **Multiple Gross Misconducts:** Where one or more players on a team incur a second gross misconduct, the team may be suspended pending a decision by the League as to whether the team may continue in the league, and the terms and conditions for such continuance.
 - g) **Coaching Staff Suspensions:** A member of the coaching staff who is suspended shall withdraw from further play in the League, subject to review and the imposition of a sanction by the League that may include that person's withdrawal from the League for the season or seasons or for a number of games, his or her execution of a probation letter, or a combination thereof.
- 9.3 Every player assessed two of any of the penalties referred to in 9.2 (a) to (d) above, or any combination thereof, may be removed from the Team Roster for the season, or for such other period or on such other terms as the League may determine in its sole discretion.
- 9.4 Depending on the circumstances, the League shall decide if the withdrawal of a Player or Team Official under the preceding section shall or shall not prevent the Player or Team Official from playing exhibition and tournament games, from refereeing games in other leagues or from coaching hockey teams at other levels.
- 9.5 Without the prior written consent of the League, no Team shall play any further games until it has remitted the Game and Referee Incident Reports required to be filed under this By-law. In the sole discretion of the League, a Team that plays further games without having filed such Reports may have any such games defaulted to the opposing Team.

10 RESCHEDULING OF GAMES

A team unable to play loses the game except as follows:

- a) The game is rescheduled by consent of the two teams, and the new date is approved by the League.
- b) In the case of inclement weather or other acts of God, the team unable to play must immediately notify the League, and make actual voice contact or other positive communication with the opposing team. The League shall determine if the game must be replayed, declared a draw or defaulted.

- (c) Except for (b) above, a Team that is unable to ice a team for a scheduled game shall give at least 48 hours notification to the League and to the opposing team. Teams that give less than 48 hours notice maybe required by the League to pay the cost of the ice and the game officials. Teams that give no notice as required may, in the sole discretion of the League, be removed from the League.

11 REPORTS OF GAME AND GROSS MISCONDUCT AND MATCH PENALTIES TO THE LEAGUE

Each Team shall report all major, misconduct, game misconduct, gross misconduct and match penalties, and all checking-from-behind penalties, incurred by his Team to the League by email or fax immediately following the game and not later than 48-hrs after the game, including the Penalty incurred, Player Name, Player Number, Period and Time Penalty occurred, Referee Name and Number, and any injuries arising from the incident.

12 INCIDENT REPORTS, GAME SHEETS AND GAME DATA SHEETS

- i) ORIGINAL GAME SHEET TO THE LEAGUE: The Home Team shall email the Game Data Sheet and shall email or fax the white (top) copy of all Game Sheets to the League immediately and not later than 48-hrs after each game, or shall ensure that the Game Referee emails or faxes the white (top) copy of all Game Sheets to the President within 48-hrs of each game where the Referee keeps the Game Sheet on account of a reportable incident.
- ii) INCIDENT REPORTS TO THE LEAGUE: Each Team shall ensure that all Referee Incident Reports regarding Players on their Team are sent by email or fax to the President within 48-hrs of each game.

13 PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- 13.1 Hockey Canada Rule 40 (d) states that: "A Referee shall have full authority and the final decision in all matters under dispute. His decision shall be final on all questions of judgement and not subject to appeal."
- 13.2 Any Member Association may protest or appeal any matter that is not subject to Hockey Canada Rule 40(d) by delivery of four copies of a written Appeal Submission and payment of the Appeal Fee of \$150.00 to the League. Where this section conflicts with the ODMHA Revised Code of Discipline or with ODMHA Appendix A Discipline and Appeals, the ODMHA shall prevail. Protests and appeals must be approved and presented by the Member Association and not by the Team, Player or Team Official.
- 13.3 The First Level Appeal shall be to the League, who shall appoint a Fact Finder and Mediator, and to whom the Appeal Submission shall be delivered by email, fax or by hand within the Appeal Period of 96 hours commencing at the time of the incident being appealed. Four copies of the Appeal Submission shall be provided, and shall include a copy of the Game Sheet, the Referee's Incident Report, a written Statement of Facts from the Coach or Team Manager, a Request for Relief from the penalty, suspension or decision being appealed, and the Member Association's Acknowledgment confirming that the Appeal is being made on its behalf and that it supports the Appeal being made. The League may advise the Member Association in writing that the Appeal Submission is incomplete, describing the omitted or incomplete documentation, and advising that the Appeal will not be heard unless four copies of the omitted or incomplete documentation is submitted within the Appeal Period or such extension to the Appeal Period as the League may determine.
- 13.4 The League shall send one copy of the Appeal Submission to the Referee in Chief of the District in which the incident being appealed occurred, one copy to the President of the Member Association of the other Team involved in the game in which the incident being appealed occurred, and one copy to District 8. That other Team or the Referee in Chief may provide a written Response to the Appeal Submission within 96 hours of the time that the President delivers the Appeal Submission to that other Team.
- 13.5 The League may extend any time limits set out in this section and its subsections, in his or her sole discretion, by a fixed amount or to a fixed date, whether before or after the original time limit has expired. In the event of urgency, in the sole discretion of the League an Oral Appeal Hearing may be held without delivery of a written Appeal Submission, provided full and proper notice is given to all those affected by the incident being appealed and provided all parties and interested persons are given full opportunity to speak at the Oral Appeal Hearing.
- 13.6 The League shall review the Written Submission or, in the event of an Oral Appeal Hearing, the information obtained at the Hearing, and the League may make further enquiries to ascertain the complete facts of the incident. Within a reasonable time, the League shall make a Facts Ruling stating its findings of the facts in the incident being appealed. The League shall also make a Penalty Ruling deciding the penalty or penalties that shall apply in the incident. The Facts Ruling and the Penalty Ruling shall be delivered by the League to those who received the Appeal Submission.
- 13.7 The Facts Ruling may be appealed to the Second Level by delivery of a written Notice of Second Level Appeal (Facts) to the League by email, fax or by hand, and payment of an additional Appeal Fee of \$150.00 to the League, within the Second Level Appeal Period of 96 hours commencing at the time of the Facts Ruling being delivered to the Member Association.

- 13.8 The Second Level Appeal (Facts) shall be heard by a single individual, designated by District 8, who shall act as an Arbitrator. Within 7 days of receipt by the League of the Notice of Second Level Appeal (Facts), the Arbitrator shall review all the documentation submitted for the First Level Appeal and shall hear oral and written submissions from the party appealing, and from any other party that he or she decides has relevant information that ought to be heard. The Arbitrator shall make a decision within 10 days of receipt by the League of the Notice of Second Level Appeal (Facts), which decision shall not be subject to any further appeal.
- 13.9 The Penalty Ruling may be appealed directly to the Third Level by delivery of a written Notice of Third Level Appeal to the League by email, fax or by hand within the Appeal Period of 96 hours commencing at the time of the Penalty Ruling being delivered to the Member Association. The Third Level Appeal shall be made to the District 8 Discipline and Appeals Committee, whose rules and procedures shall apply. The Third Level Appeal shall not be held until a decision has been rendered for the Second Level Appeal, or the time for making a Second Level Appeal has expired.
- 13.10 Any player, team official, referee or association representative who fails to attend a discipline or appeal hearing when instructed to do so by the League, without just cause, may be suspended by the League.
- 13.11 The League will not hear any appeals or protests from Home Teams regarding timing of games or the completion of the Game Sheet, and the League will not hear any appeals or protests from Visiting Teams regarding the timing of games or the completion of the Game Sheet if the Visiting Team did not place a monitor in the timekeepers box and make a notation on the Game Sheet advising of the objection.

14 LEAGUE STANDINGS

- 14.1 Two (2) points will be awarded to the winner of each game, and one (1) point will be awarded to each team in games which end with the score tied (equal). Defaulted games shall be recorded as a 1-0 victory for the non-defaulting team.
- 11.2 Tie-breaking and the order of standings shall be decided as follows:
- a) greatest number of points;
 - b) after a) has been considered, greatest number of wins overall;
 - c) after a) and b) have been considered, greatest number of points in games between tied teams;
 - d) after a), b), and c) have been considered, total goals ratio. (The total goals ratio is computed by dividing total "goals for" during the regular season (or the play-offs, as the case may be) by total "goals against");
 - e) after a), b), c), and d) have been considered, coin toss; and
 - f) where the above system does not fit the circumstances, the League in its sole discretion may determine the outcome using a reasonable method.

15 PLAY-OFFS

- 15.1 Every team completing the League's regular season will participate in the play-offs.
- 15.2 The League shall determine the overall playoff format once the total number of teams in the League is ascertained, provided that the format may be changed by the League not later than the end of the regular season if there are significant differences in the skill levels of the teams, or for any other reason.
- 15.3 Champions may be determined for each division, if any. The League Champion shall be determined in a Championship Round of one or more games. The League shall arrange and pay for the ice and for the officials for the Championship Game, and in the event of a tie, time shall be allowed to clean the ice, for one 12-minute stop-time overtime period, and for a shoot-out. If a winner is not determined, the League may provide an additional game time and officials, or the winner may be determined by a coin-toss.

16 LEAGUE DOCUMENTS

The League Documents include this Organizational By-law, the Rules, the Application, and all documents referred to in each of those documents, as those documents may be issued and amended from time to time.

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